IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently amended) A method [[of]] , in a data processing system, for estimating an impact of proposed legislation on a user, comprising:

obtaining proposed legislation data from a server computing device;

calculating, in a client computing device, an affect of the proposed legislation based on the proposed legislation data; and

outputting, via the client computing device, the affect of the proposed legislation, wherein the proposed legislation data represents proposed changes to a tax code, and wherein calculating an affect of the proposed legislation includes calculating an estimated change in tax liability by:

calculating an estimated tax liability based on the proposed legislation data; and

comparing the estimated tax liability to a previous tax liability.

2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating an electronic mail message based on the affect of the proposed legislation; and

transmitting the electronic mail message to one or more remote devices.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the electronic mail message indicates one of a user's support or non-support of the proposed legislation.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the electronic mail message is automatically generated.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the affect of the proposed legislation is automatically inserted into the electronic mail message.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the electronic mail message is automatically addressed to the one or more remote devices.

9.   (Currently amended) The method of claim [[3]] 1, wherein calculating an estimated tax liability based on the proposed legislation data includes:

      updating a tax calculation engine based on the proposed [[tax]] legislation data;

      obtaining financial data for the user; and

      applying the updated tax calculation engine to the financial data.

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising downloading one or more addresses for the one or more remote devices.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the affect of the proposed legislation included in the electronic mail message is accumulated with other affects of the proposed legislation included in other electronic mail messages received by the one or more remote devices.

13.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for estimating an impact of proposed legislation on a user, comprising:

      means for obtaining proposed legislation data;

      means for calculating an affect of the proposed legislation based on the proposed legislation data; and

      means for outputting the affect of the proposed legislation, wherein the proposed legislation data represents proposed changes to a tax code, and wherein the means for calculating an affect of the proposed legislation includes:

means for calculating an estimated change in tax liability by calculating an estimated tax liability based on the proposed legislation data; and

means for comparing the estimated tax liability to a previous tax liability.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

means for generating an electronic mail message based on the affect of the proposed legislation; and

means for transmitting the electronic mail message to one or more remote devices.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the electronic mail message indicates one of a user's support or non-support of the proposed legislation.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the electronic mail message is automatically generated.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the affect of the proposed legislation is automatically inserted into the electronic mail message.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the electronic mail message is automatically addressed to the one or more remote devices.

21. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[15]] 13, wherein the means for calculating an estimated tax liability based on the proposed legislation data includes:

means for updating a tax calculation engine based on the proposed [[tax]] legislation data;

means for obtaining financial data for the user; and

means for applying the updated tax calculation engine to the financial

data.

22.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the proposed
[[tax]] legislation data is obtained from a server, and wherein the apparatus is
implemented in a client to the server.

23.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising means for
downloading one or more addresses for the one or more remote devices.

24.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the affect of the proposed
legislation included in the electronic mail message is accumulated with other
affects of the proposed legislation included in other electronic mail messages
received by the one or more remote devices.

25.   (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable
medium for estimating an impact of proposed legislation on a user, comprising:

        first instructions for obtaining proposed legislation data;

        second instructions for calculating an affect of the proposed legislation
based on the proposed legislation data; and

        third instructions for outputting the affect of the proposed legislation,
wherein the proposed legislation data represents proposed changes to a tax code,
and wherein the second instructions include:

        instructions for calculating an estimated change in tax liability by
calculating an estimated tax liability based on the proposed legislation data; and

        instructions for comparing the estimated tax liability to a previous tax
liability.

26.   (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, further comprising:

fourth instructions for generating an electronic mail message based on the affect of the proposed legislation; and

fifth instructions for transmitting the electronic mail message to one or more remote devices.

29. (Original) The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the electronic mail message indicates one of a user's support or non-support of the proposed legislation.

30. (Original) The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the electronic mail message is automatically generated.

31. (Original) The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the affect of the proposed legislation is automatically inserted into the electronic mail message.

32. (Original) The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the electronic mail message is automatically addressed to the one or more remote devices.

33. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim [[27]] 25, wherein the instructions for calculating an estimated tax liability based on the proposed legislation data includes:

instructions for updating a tax calculation engine based on the proposed [[tax]] legislation data;

instructions for obtaining financial data for the user; and

instructions for applying the updated tax calculation engine to the financial data.

34.   (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the proposed [[tax]] legislation data is obtained from a server, and wherein the computer program product is executed in a client to the server.

35.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 32, further comprising sixth instructions for downloading one or more addresses for the one or more remote devices.

36.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the affect of the proposed legislation included in the electronic mail message is accumulated with other affects of the proposed legislation included in other electronic mail messages received by the one or more remote devices.

37.   (New) A method, in a data processing system, for estimating an impact of proposed legislation on a user, comprising:

obtaining, in the data processing system, proposed legislation data;

calculating, in the data processing system, an affect of the proposed legislation based on the obtained proposed legislation data; and

outputting, via the data processing system, the affect of the proposed legislation, wherein the proposed legislation represents proposed changes affecting a user's financial resources, and wherein calculating an affect includes calculating an estimated change in the financial resources by:

calculating an estimated amount of financial resources of the user based on the proposed legislation data; and

comparing the estimated amount of financial resources of the user to a previous amount of financial resources of the user determined without the proposed legislation data to thereby generate a financial resources change amount, wherein the financial resources change amount is indicative of the affect of the proposed legislation.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, further comprising:

automatically generating an electronic mail message based on the affect of the proposed legislation; and

automatically transmitting the electronic mail message to one or more remote devices.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the electronic mail message indicates one of a user's support or non-support of the proposed legislation.

40. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the financial resources change amount is automatically inserted into the electronic mail message.

41. (New) The method of claim 38, further comprising:

downloading one or more addresses for the one or more remote devices; and

automatically addressing the electronic mail message to include the one or more addresses.

42. (New) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for estimating an impact of proposed legislation on a user, comprising:

first instructions for obtaining, in the data processing system, proposed legislation data;

second instructions for calculating, in the data processing system, an affect of the proposed legislation based on the obtained proposed legislation data; and

third instructions for outputting, via the data processing system, the affect of the proposed legislation, wherein the proposed legislation represents proposed changes affecting a user's financial resources, and wherein the second instructions for calculating an affect includes instructions for calculating an estimated change in the financial resources by:

calculating an estimated amount of financial resources of the user based on the proposed legislation data; and

comparing the estimated amount of financial resources of the user to a previous amount of financial resources of the user determined without the proposed legislation data to thereby generate a financial resources change amount, wherein the financial resources change amount is indicative of the affect of the proposed legislation.

43.   (New) A system for estimating an impact of proposed legislation on a user, comprising:

means for obtaining, in the data processing system, proposed legislation data;

means for calculating, in the data processing system, an affect of the proposed legislation based on the obtained proposed legislation data; and

means for outputting, via the data processing system, the affect of the proposed legislation, wherein the proposed legislation represents proposed changes affecting a user's financial resources, and wherein the means for calculating an affect includes means for calculating an estimated change in the financial resources by:

calculating an estimated amount of financial resources of the user based on the proposed legislation data; and

comparing the estimated amount of financial resources of the user to a previous amount of financial resources of the user determined without the proposed legislation data to thereby generate a financial resources change amount, wherein the financial resources change amount is indicative of the affect of the proposed legislation.